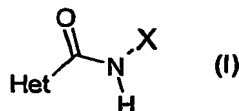
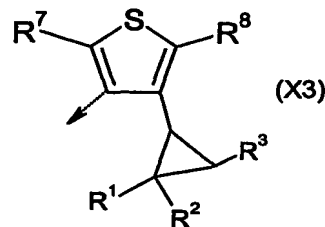
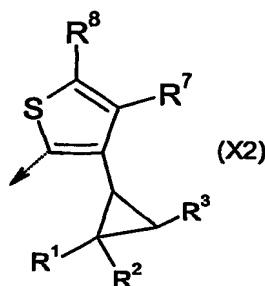
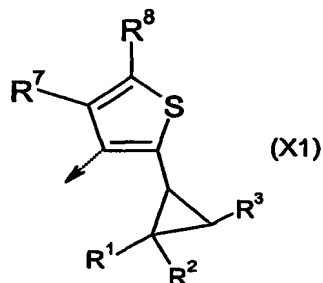


CLAIMS

1. A compound of formula (I):



where X is (X1), (X2) or (X3);

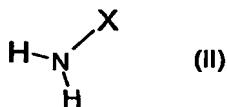


Het is a 5- or 6-membered heterocyclic ring containing one to three heteroatoms, each independently selected from oxygen, nitrogen and sulphur, provided that the ring is not 1,2,3-triazole, the ring being substituted by groups  $R^4$ ,  $R^5$  and  $R^6$ ;  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  are each, independently, hydrogen, halo or methyl;  $R^3$  is optionally substituted  $C_{2-12}$  alkyl, optionally substituted  $C_{2-12}$  alkenyl, optionally substituted  $C_{2-12}$  alkynyl, optionally substituted  $C_{3-12}$  cycloalkyl, optionally substituted phenyl or optionally substituted heterocyclyl;  $R^4$ ,  $R^5$  and  $R^6$  are each, independently, selected from hydrogen, halo, cyano, nitro,  $C_{1-4}$  alkyl,  $C_{1-4}$  haloalkyl,  $C_{1-4}$  alkoxy( $C_{1-4}$ )alkylene and  $C_{1-4}$  haloalkoxy( $C_{1-4}$ )alkylene, provided that at least one of  $R^4$ ,  $R^5$  and  $R^6$  is not hydrogen; and  $R^7$  and  $R^8$  are each, independently, hydrogen, halogen,  $C_{1-4}$  alkyl or  $C_{1-4}$  haloalkyl.

2. A compound of formula (I) as claimed in claim 1 where Het is pyrrolyl, pyrazolyl, thiazolyl, pyridinyl, pyrimidinyl, thienyl, furyl, isothiazolyl or isoxazolyl.
3. A compound of formula (I) as claimed in claim 1 or 2 where  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  are, independently, hydrogen or fluoro.
4. A compound of formula (I) as claimed in claim 1, 2 or 3 where  $R^3$  is  $C_{2-6}$  alkyl, optionally substituted  $C_{3-8}$  cycloalkyl, phenyl, thienyl or furyl.

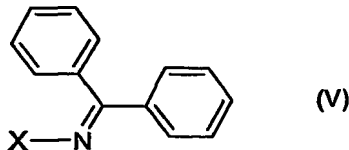
5. A compound of formula (I) as claimed in claim 1, 2, 3 or 4 where  $R^4$ ,  $R^5$  and  $R^6$  are, independently, selected from hydrogen, halogen,  $C_{1-4}$  alkyl,  $C_{1-4}$  haloalkyl and  $C_{1-4}$  alkoxy( $C_{1-4}$ )alkylene, provided that at least one of  $R^4$ ,  $R^5$  and  $R^6$  is not hydrogen.

6. A compound formula (II):



where X and  $R^3$  are as defined in claim 1; and  $R^1$ ,  $R^2$ ,  $R^7$  and  $R^8$  are each hydrogen.

7. A process for preparing a compound of formula (II) as claimed in claim 6 from a compound of formula (V):



where X,  $R^1$ ,  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$ ,  $R^7$  and  $R^8$  are as defined in claim 6, comprising either a transamination reaction of a compound of formula (V) with hydroxylamine hydrochloride in the presence of a base or a hydrolysis reaction of a compound of formula (V) with an acid.

8. A process for preparing a compound of formula (V) as defined in claim 7 from a compound of formula (IV):



where X,  $R^1$ ,  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$ ,  $R^7$  and  $R^8$  are as defined in claim 6, comprising tris-dibenzylidenacetondipalladium-catalysed reaction of a compound of formula (IV) with benzophenonimine in the presence of a strong base and a ligand in a solvent at a temperature between 30°C and reflux temperature.

9. A composition for controlling microorganisms and preventing attack and infestation of plants therewith, wherein the active ingredient is a compound of formula (I) as claimed in claim 1 together with a suitable carrier.
- 5 10. A method of controlling or preventing infestation of cultivated plants by phytopathogenic microorganisms by application of a compound of formula (I) as claimed in claim 1 to plants, to parts thereof or the locus thereof.